

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 00441 100306Z

ACTION EA-12

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CONFIDENTIAL HONG KONG 0441
DEPT FOR EA ONLY

FOR GLEYSTEEN FROM OAKLEY

SINGAPORE FOR DEPUTY ASST SEC OAKLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, HK, TW, VM
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

1. AT COM CONFERENCE, DICK HOLBROOKE, PATT DERIAN AND LEN UNGER AGREED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO GET THE ROC TO ACCEPT FOR PERMENT RESETTLEMENT SEVERAL THOUSAND BOAT CASE REFUGEES OF CHINESE ETHNIC ORIGIN, IR-RESPECTIVE OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE ANY PRIOR CONNECTION TO TAIWAN.

2. DICK WOULD LIKE THE ROC DESK TO WORK WITH FRANK BENNETT AND HA IN DEVELOPING THE SPECIFIC ARGUMENTS, AND THE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAIPEI TO IMPLEMENT THIS COM CONFERENCE DECISION. OUR APPROACH TO THE ROC SHOULD HIGHLIGHT THE HEAVILY CHINESE COMPOSITION OF THE REFUGEE FLOW AND COMPARE TAIWAN'S INADEQUATE PERFORMANCE ON REFUGEES WITH THE FORTHCOMING ATITUDE OF AUSTRALIA, CANADA, FRANCE AND THE U.S. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO COUNTER THE ROC'S ARGUMENT OF POPULATION AND ECONOMIC PRES-SURES BY CITING THE NUMBER OF CHINESE EMIGRES FROM TAIWAN

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WHO ANNUALLY RESETTLE IN THE U.S. (BELIEVED TO APPROACH 20,000). WE SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISMISS ANY ROC CONCERNS ON SECURITHY GROUNDS BY EXPRESSING DISBELIF THAT THIS COULD BE A SERIOUS PROBLEM GIVEN THE STRONG DISTASTE FOR COMMUNISM WHICH MOTIVATES THESE REFUGEES TO RISK THEIR LIEVES TO SEEK HAVEN.

4. DICK, PATT, MIKE MANSFIELD AND JACK SULLIVAN
ALSO AGREED THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE ASKED IN UPCOMING
AID TALKS TO MAKE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE AN ADDITIONAL
\$10 MILLION SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNHCR FOR
BOAT CASE REFUGEES. THIS COULD BE USED TO DEFRAY
COSTS SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION TO RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES
(INCLUDING U.S.), PROPOSED SINGAPORE TRANSIT CENTER,
ETC. EA SHOULD WORK WITH HA TO DEVELOP BEST ARGUMENTS
FOR AID TEAM TO USE WITH JAPANESE.
SHOESMITH

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